

Hervey (John Thomas) R
Mr. HERVEY's
L E T T E R

To the Reverend

9
Sir William Bunbury, Bart.

T O G E T H E R

With a Short PREFACE by the
AUTHOR, offering some Reasons, which
he hopes will serve also as an Apology
for the Publication of it.

I have learn'd so to be angry as not to sin, by
being angry at nothing but Sin.

Bishop BEVERIDGE.



L O N D O N:

Printed for H. CARPENTER, in Fleet-Street.

[Price Six-Pence.]

LETTER TO MR. HERNE'S

To the Reverend

Sir William Ramsbury, Bart.

TOGETHER

With a Short PREFACE by the
Author, offering some Reasons, which
he hopes will serve also as an Apology
for the Publication.

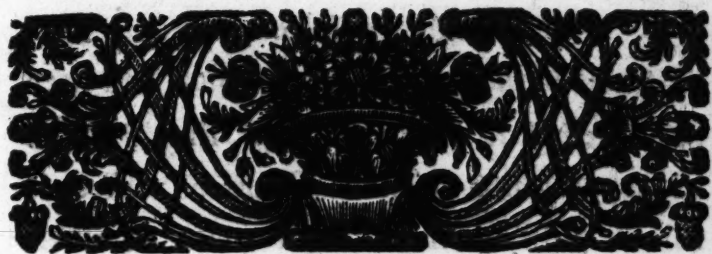


I have learn'd to be oblig'd to you, by
your anxiety at writing out this
Bishop Ramsbury.

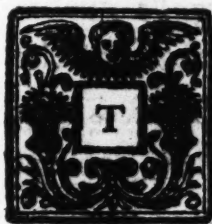


L O N D O N

Printed for H. GARDNER, in Pall Mall.
[Price Six Pence.]



TO THE
R E A D E R.



HE Publick having been informed of my Arraignment in the Court of *King's-Bench* for some great Misdemeanor ; I thought it advisable, to let my Friends and the World know, the Nature of my Trespass, and by what Means I had incurred the Censure of the Chief Justice.

B

ftice. Accordingly I resolved, that my Letter to Sir *William Bunbury*, which had been published in *Westminster-Hall*, should make its Appearance without Doors ; where it might possibly meet with more equitable Judges. When I say more equitable Judges, I hope I shall not be thought to intimate; that there is, or ever was on Earth, a more upright one, than the Gentleman who has the Honour to preside in the Court where I was amened: Far from it. *Legally* questioned and considered, I have no Reason to complain, that my Letter suffered an entire and absolute Condemnation. All I mean to say is, that the Merit or Demerit of such a Transaction, should not be *legally* questioned ; it is *coram non judice*. Some of the most heinous Wrongs and Offences that can be committed amongst Men, are not cognisable in a Court of Justice : The Laws have provided no Penalty, no Satisfaction for them. And where the Laws are silent or inactive, injured Men are naturally tempt-
 ed

ed to supply this Defect, by having Recourse to other Means, and trying to redress *themselves*. The Custom of Duelling has notoriously obtained throughout the whole civilized World. And though such a Toleration is, and ever will be, most cruelly abused; yet a total Abolition of it would, I fear, go a great Way towards *uncivilizing* it again. The Life of Sir *William Bunbury*, I protest solemnly, would scarce atone for what I have suffered these seven Years past on his Account. He has made my Being loathsome to me; which is surely a more grievous Thing, than the Loss of it. From the Hour I had first Intimation of his iniquitous Procedure, my Mind, like those of distracted People, has known but one Object: He has kept every Nerve of my Body as much upon the Stretch, Day and Night, as the Rigging of a Ship in a Storm; and almost wrung asunder, by the conflicting Passions of Grief and Indignation.

To recur to my filly Letter: The weakest Part of this hasty Performance was, my not recollecting that I was writing to a very *weak* Man. For had it been addressed either to a Person of Spirit, or one that had even Sense enough to know his own Interest, in such an Encounter; it could never have been referred to the Opinion of a Judge. He would immediately have foreseen, what the Reflections of the Reader must be, on perusing so very warm and petulant a Remonstrance; and that they could not but be to the Discredit of him that provoked it. Sir *William's* Fears, however, were not the only Motive to this unadvised Measure. He happens to have a selfish, dirty Fellow for his Steward, whose Brother is an Attorney; in Consideration of which, this great Director of his Counsels, takes Advantage of his Master's Passions, and sends him upon every frivolous Pretence, to *Westminster-Hall*. The tedious and expensive Suit I sustained in *Chancery* is to be accounted for no other
Way;

Way ; for the Claim of Lady *Hanmer's* Child stands just as it did at the Commencement of it.

The *Precedent* I furnished this poor Gentleman with, for accepting a Challenge, operated, I fear, quite contrary to my Wishes : As he perceived, that the moving in any Instance by such a Guide, would destroy the Uniformity of his Behaviour towards me, which is wholly *unprecedented*. Religiously considered, it must be confessed indeed, that he has governed his Conduct by a more becoming Guidance : Inasmuch as he may be said to have *worked out his Salvation by Fear and Trembling*. But then the Salvation spoken of in the Scriptures is *everlasting* : And herein the Similitude ceases.

As this Matter begins to be universally talked of, I shall beg Leave to trouble the
Publick,

Publick, some Time hence, with a Narrative of the Proceedings of this *Reverend* Gentleman, as well before, as since the Death of his Uncle, Sir *Thomas Hanmer*. I am sorry, I am urged to bring again into Debate, the Character and Conduct of that Gentleman ; who, as a Penitent, was entitled to some Compassion and Tenderness. But as long as I have Life, I will resist Abuse : And when all Hope of redressing my Wrongs shall disappear, it will be Time to disappear myself, by sacrificing it to the Resentment of them. The doing of it excepted, I think few Things more reproachable in a Gentleman, than tamely to suffer Injustice.

Should the Reader find in this Address to him, or in the Letter to which it is prefixed, any light or intemperate Expressions, I entreat him not to be scandalized at it ; but to suspend his Censure, till he shall be
better

better informed of my Case. Nothing quickens our Sense of Injuries so much, as the Consciouſness of doing none. And upon my Word, I have deceived no body I have defamed no body, defrauded no body: I hope I have offended no body. If I have, I take this Occasion to assure such Person, that he might have exacted his own Atonement: For I would crouch, like a beaten Spaniel, to any one I had given real Cause of Complaint against me. But my Offences might be manifold, and yet not rob me of the melancholy Comfort of being able to say at least with old *Lear*, *that I am a Man more finned against, than sinning.*

Mr.



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Mr. *H E R V E Y*'s

L E T T E R

To the Reverend

Sir *William Bunbury*, Bart.



MR. W. E. R.

LETTER



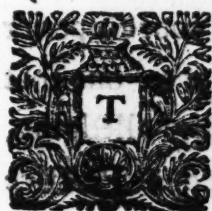
St. William B. B. B.



T O

Sir *William Bunbury*, Bart.

S I R,



THE first Care and Concern
of my Life have been, to
keep clear of any Imputation
of doing others wrong. My
next have been, and ever shall
be, to do myself right. It is a most griev-
ous Thing, to have spent my Days in a

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State

State of Warfare with Mankind: Scarce conscious of a Trespass, that could create a Moment's Enmity to me.

You cannot but know, Sir, without my telling you, that you have both offended, and injured me greatly: But it may be necessary to inform you, that no Man ever yet did either, with Impunity. Put off the Divine, as you vainly and impiously call it, and if I do not shew the World you have a *mortal* Part, Contempt and Infamy be my Portion. That you may not deride a Proposal of this Sort, or treat it as extravagant; I protest to you, I was present when a Gentleman of your Profession, and your Superior in all Respects, sent a Challenge to one that had traduced him: Very justly alledging, that so long as Custom tolerated a Practice of this Sort, (Hypocrisy and Prejudice apart) it could not but be as warrantable in *him*, as in me. I fear, nevertheless, that such

Notions

Notions are too ingenuous and liberal, to be adopted by a Person of your mean and contracted Way of thinking. You will be an Advocate rather, for the antient Way of Duelling, when Churchmen used to fight by *Proxy*! I am so thoroughly persuaded, that you presumed upon the Protection of your Gown and Band, when you first meditated the Baseness of which you stand accused: And you must have been so totally void of all the Sentiments of a Gentleman, ere you committed it: There is but little Probability of your assuming that Character, when you are called upon to pay the Penalty of it. Be that as it may, if you have flattered, or can flatter yourself, that I will not exact a severe Atonement for your Behaviour; you will leave me no better Opinion of your Parts, than of your Morals: For by all that is sacred, you would have as good a Chance to elude the Wrath of Heaven, if you had incurred it, as to avoid my Vengeance. Vengeance is Virtue, with Men of
great

great and elevated Spirits, when conscious that they are sacrificing a proper Object of it. Mr. *Clarke*, my Counsel, told me, upon the first Hints I gave him of your insidious Dealing with me, and the Dilemma you had brought me into, by abusing the Confidence I was so weak to repose in you; that *he feared Sir William Bunbury had ensnared me*. Now, Sir, you have Sense enough to know, what is meant by ensnaring, without any invidious Paraphrase, or Comment upon it. But it may be of some Importance to apprise you, if you do not proceed immediately to give me some Satisfaction in this Matter, and to do Justice to the Child of Lady *Hanmer*, that you have laid a Snare for yourself: From which if you escape, I will be content to be called Knave, Fool, and Coward; or to have all the Ill *said* of me, which I have conceived of you. I expressed myself, I remember, in a pretty strong and emphatic Manner upon this Subject, in my last Remonstrance

to

(19)

to your Uncle: And if I do not act up to
the Letter of my Vow, may Perdition,
eternal Perdition, light on me and my Po-
sterity.

Thomas Hervey.

F I N I S.

(10)

to your Uncle: And I do not ask you to
the letter of my Mother, my Father,
and my Brother, light to me and my
family.

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